

July

Magic Lantern Society
of the United States and Canada

NEWS 2021



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

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Click Image to check out these kid summer activities on these children's slides



The Magic Lantern Calendar – July 2021

Events

July 24, 2021, **Summer Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society, University of Exeter, Exeter, England

August 14, 2021, **MLS Northwest Group**, Poulsbo, WA.

September 15-18, 2021, **30th International Panorama Council Conference**, New Bedford, MA.

October 23, 2021, **Fall Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society, Swedenborg Hall, London, England.

January 22, 2022, **Annual General Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society, London, England.

April 29 – May 1, 2022, **Magic Lantern Convention**, Magic Lantern Society, Birmingham, England.

May 5 – 7, 2022, **The Magic Lantern in Leisure, Entertainment and Popular Culture**, B-Magic Final Conference, Antwerp Belgium.

Pre-conference Event at CINEMATEK Brussels, May 4, 2022. Call for Papers open until 1 October 2021.

See <https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/projects/b-magic/final-conference/call-for-papers/>

September 2022, **Magic Lantern Convention**, Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada, Cleveland OH. Dates TBA.

Exhibits

Currently open, **Balzer Collection**, Academy Museum of Motion Pictures, Los Angeles CA USA. 9,000 magic lantern objects collected by former MLS president Richard Balzer.

Through December 2026, **The Story of the Moving Image**, Australian Center for the Moving Image, Melbourne Australia. From magic lanterns to the latest in interactive technology

Online

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page.
www.magiclanternmuseum.com

Virtual Worlds in Early Cinema: Devices, Aesthetics and Audiences, Museu del Cinema, University of Girona, Oct 20-22, 2021. Call for papers is open until May 5; registration begins June 7.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns.

<http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.



Glass Lantern Slides



From J H RABUN
rabunj1@bellsouth.net

To Whom It May Concern:

I have approximately. 1200 Glass Lantern Slides (many Edward Van Altena, New York; Dr.Franz Stoedtner, Dusseldorf; National Studios,Inc, New York; a few The Sillyads Co., Knoxville,TN. + other producers).

Do you know of anyone that would be interested in these slides? They are in excellent conditions. I would appreciate any help you can offer.

Thank you for your consideration.

I thought you might want to know the subjects of the 1000 slides I wrote you about.

300 Architecture 100 Sculpture
200 Furniture
200 Costumes/Portraits
100 Pottery 100 Textiles/Artists/
Mosaics

Dear Mr.Evans:

Thank you for your immediate response. I will answer your questions as follows:

Yes, I would like for you to offer them in



your next publication (July) in the hopes that someone might be interested. The slides could be sold as one group or in groups by subject matter. I do not have a price in mind (only what I have seen on Ebay); so I am open to offers. I am located in Knoxville,Tn., and if you know of someone local that is interested, we could make arrangements for them to view.

I will send you several copies of slides under separate cover.

Sincerely,
J. H. Rabun

From David Evans
Dear Mr Rabun

Thank you for contacting us. Thank you also for your follow-up email about the subject matter. We can offer them for sale in our next e-publication (July) in the hope that a member might be interested. Would you want to sell them in one group or perhaps in groups by subject matter? Do you have a price in mind, or should we state that they are open to offers? Could you send me a few pictures of them? Where are you located? If we had a member local to you who might be interested, would you allow them to view them?

David Evans

From Jonathan Kaufman

jkholdings@icloud.com

Dear Sir\Madame,

I came across a couple of boxes of glass slides 3 1/4 inch and a projector. I'd like to try to improve the quality of the image projected.

Do you have experience or do you know anyone who might be able to help me with this project? Photos of slides and projector attached.

Jon Kaufman
646-267-2240
Woodstock New York

Thanks for your quick response David and please forgive me for my late response, too much on my plate.

Image is bright and sharp in middle but lost on edges:

I can move the bulb around it a little bit inside the projector but it seems dispersing the brightness evenly over the slide surface is what's not happening... Maybe there's something to solve that?

Also, I was wondering if this Projector is beyond fixing, which of course I'm hoping it's not, if there

**Illuminant is this bulb:**

are other projectors (maybe newer) that show these beautiful glass slides more efficiently, and maybe change slides automatically. I love this whole project and I want to make it work but I would also love the opportunity to have my slides projected and change automatically. I think I mentioned in my first email, I picked these up at an auction and I probably have a couple hundred beautiful glass slides

Jon
646-267-2240

Glass Slides & Projector

From David Evans

Dear Jon

What is wrong with the projected image? What sort of illuminant are you using? There can be many reasons for a poor quality image. It should be sharp and evenly illuminated on the screen.

Thank you for contacting us, and for the pictures.

Various suggestions:

You really need a 'point source' lamp rather than a domestic light bulb. I suggest quartz halogen or LED. Without a slide in the carrier you should be able to move the lamp about until the image is evenly illuminated over the whole of the circle. I am assuming that the condenser lens is correctly assembled - generally there are two plano-convex lenses assembled so that the convex sides face each other in the middle. If is still not possible to obtain an even illumination, it is possible that someone has disassembled the projection lens and reassembled the elements in the wrong order. The projection lens is usually made up of two or more elements to minimise colour fringing. I have on several occasions found lanterns where they have been put together in the wrong order.

I'm sure it will be quite possible to get your lantern working correctly!

Regarding automatic slide changing, I am assuming your slides are 3 1/4" x 4" size? It is not totally impossible to do, but not at all common. I recently acquired one such projector that dates from about 1920 for advertising purposes. It is similar to a 35mm carousel projector in principle but is large, heavy and primitive, with open electric motor on a cast iron base. It is the only one of its type I have seen and I have yet to restore it.

Do feel free to contact me again and let me know your progress.

David

The Riley Brothers Lantern-slide Business

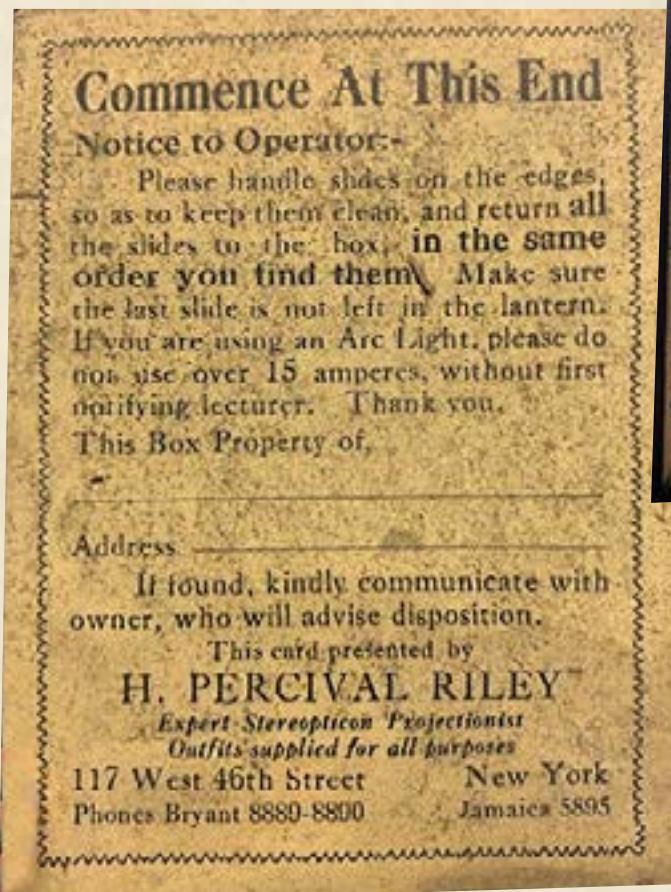
From Carrie Thoburn
travelnut5@gmail.com

Mr. Rall,
I found your contact info through
the luikerwaal.com site and am
reaching out to find out if you
may have interest or advice
regarding a large family collection
of lantern slides and equipment
that we have.

My great-great-great-grandfather was Joseph Riley, who founded the Riley Brothers lantern-slide business described here: <https://www.victorian-cinema.net/riley> Joseph's son Herbert was my great-great-grandfather.

When my grandparents passed away several years ago, my dad and uncle saved a large collection of glass slides and equipment that had been passed down. All of it is currently being stored at my parents' house about an hour north of Chicago, and we are trying to identify whether anyone would be interested in having the collection.

I don't know how much (if any) of the collection actually goes all the way back to the Riley Brothers' original business, vs how much of it is more recent. It appears that my great-grandfather H. Percival Riley operated a business as an "Expert Stereopticon Projectionist," so much of the material is likely from his era.



continued next page

Riley Brothers Lantern-slide Business continued

I don't see anything that looks like an original Riley Brothers projector, though there are some lenses that may be relevant. There are a few pieces of equipment which all appear to be more recent. Among the larger pieces of equipment is a Victor Portable Stereopticon Model 2 (patent 1913, 1914), a Kodiopticon, and a Kodascope Eight (1932 Canadian patent, US patent pending). There are also lots of parts and pieces: lenses, replacement light bulbs, etc, etc.

There are a LOT of slides (hundreds definitely; maybe over a thousand), and I'm not able to date them well. Most are 10cm w x 8.2cm h (or 4" x 3 1/4"). Some are larger: 12.5cm x 10cm, and some are 21.5cm w x 16.5 cm h.

Overall there is a lot of stuff. Roughly 30 boxes sized 8" x 16". About half of the contents are slides, and the other half is various parts, pieces, lenses, bulbs, and equipment. I've attached a number of photos to show a few relevant items.

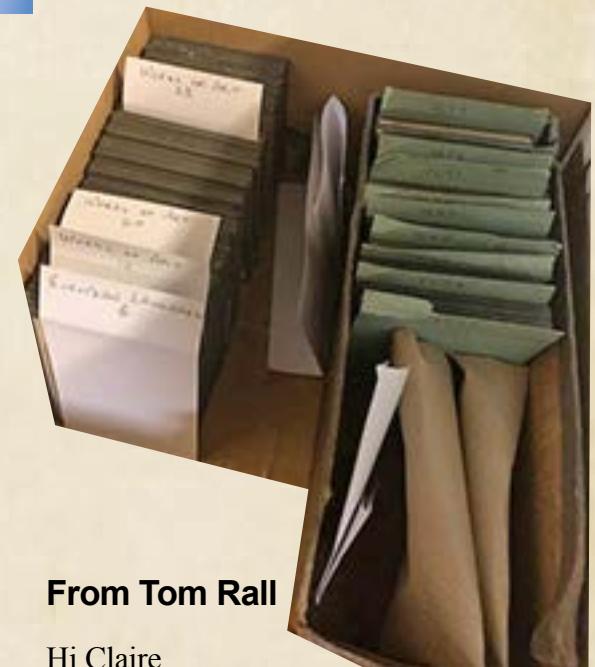
Thanks for your time and consideration. If you are not personally interested, but know someone who might be, please point me in the right direction.

Carrie Thoburn
travelnut5@gmail.com



Thanks very much, Tom. I'd be happy for them to share with the readers of the society publications, and/or share with any enthusiasts who might be interested in taking on the collection to identify what's worth keeping.

Much appreciated,
Carrie Thoburn



From Tom Rall

Hi Claire,

Thank you for your email and the interesting history of your family inheritance. I am sure it will be of interest both here and in the UK for members of Magic Lantern Societies. As such I am copying this exchange with both US/ Canadian and British colleagues who will probably publish your inquiry in our respective publications. Here in the states it will most likely be included in a monthly online newsletter and/or periodic magazine. The next issue of the newsletter would publish July 1. At any rate, I feel quite certain a home will be found for the collection. Thanks for letting me know about it.

A Slide display



From Jessica Levy

jessica.levy@simmons.edu

Is there a way to post photos to the group? I've started my collection of lantern slides, and wanted to share. I've found that I really like the look of the Keystone slides. I've collected 6 slides so far: 3 of Mount Holyoke College (my alma mater), 1 of a textile mill worker from the early 1900s (I'm a big labor history buff!), 1 of the old Boston State House, and 1 of the Holyoke, MA dam. They are so cool. I've arranged them in a box, and set tea lights behind each slide to illuminate them. It is hanging

on my wall, and I love looking at them!!! I've attached a couple pics - please feel free to post to the group.

Jessica

From David Evans

Hi Jessica

They certainly look very pretty like that! The only thing is that continuous exposure to light may cause them to fade, so I wouldn't keep the lights on all the time, just when you want to show them off for a while.

We can add your pictures to our next e-publication so that members can share them. Thank you!

Regards

David



Australia Clichés

From David Donaldson

filmart@dodo.com.au

Hi journalist friends in US, a little fun – https://www.crikey.com.au/2021/06/18/four-simple-rules-for-writing-about-weird-and-wonderful-australia/?utm_campaign=Daily&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter

Crikey

Politics World World Business Coronavirus Health Culture

Culture

Four simple rules for writing about 'weird and wonderful' Australia

When writing about this fair country, journalists of the world like to stick to some well-worn clichés and stock phrases. Here's a quick guide to the rules for reporting on Oz.

No, I have never seen a crocodile, nobody actually hugs koala (they scratch and pee on you), I have never been in a fire or flood (thanks be). I have never heard anyone refer to their convict past.

A local cliche is that any body of water has to be compared to Sydney Harbour — not that anyone knows how big that is.

Cheers
David Donaldson

Here in the northern hemisphere as projectionists, we refer to a projected upsidedown slide, "as that was one of my Australian slides".

What is the term Australians use?

A question about Chromatropes

From Roy Grao

roygraog@gmail.com

Hi, good evening. I was wondering if you could give me a hand with a little issue I've been having with chromatropes. I am a carpenter, and a friend and I started a carpentry project recently, we want to make chromatropes (besides a few other objects) but we can't find a replacement for the band used to make the wheels turn. We need some help with that because we're very close to start production and that's our only problem so far. We haven't found anyone else making this kind of object and we'd like to know if you could help us with that. Mainly we want to know if you know of any replacement (a resistant one that's also not very expensive) or if you could tell us a little bit about what material was used back in the day. It would also be incredibly helpful if you had the contact of someone who has tried making chromatropes before. I hope this email doesn't come as inconvenient or annoying, we just want to bring this beautiful object back to life.

From David Evans

Hi Roy

Chromatropes originally came in one of two forms - gear driven or belt driven. The gear driven ones would need a brass 'contrate' gear wheel made of a diameter suitable to hold the glass and you would need a pinion to match it fitted on to the crank axle. Belt driven ones consist of a grooved brass mount for the glass and a wood or brass pulley with the handle mounted on it. The belt was originally a strong thread carefully spliced or knotted (and crossed over to give more friction to the belt). The glass would rotate in the opposite direction to the handle. I have sometimes used video cassette player drive belts that are rubber, quite thin and often a suitable length.

We do, I think, have one or two members who have made chromatropes, and if we include your question in our next e-Publication it is possible that someone may be able to help you.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

Youtube Show

From Gart Westerhout

gartsongs@gmail.com

I was a guest on a live youtube show yesterday, now available to watch at anytime: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o968pe5kAjc> I make a brief vocal appearance at 16:30 or so for about a minute, and then from 21:30 - 34:00. A bit of an interview, then several clips about our theater that the youtube show producers picked up from the internet and pieced together! Mr Hero and many of his friends are magicians who have been doing this internet variety program since last year. Thanks to the producers and to all who tuned in. Cheers! (sorry no English subtitles but still fun!)

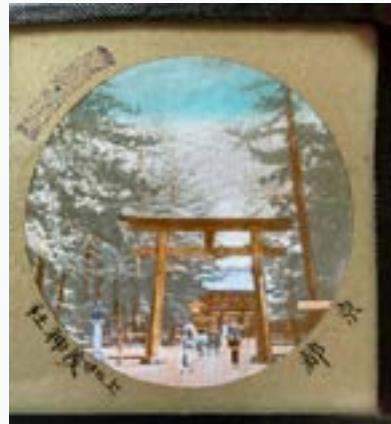


Slide Identification

From James Fox
trackman5555@gmail.com

Good evening, I have been trying to identify slides I have come upon at a recent estate sale. They to the best of my knowledge are not "Magic Lantern" type slides as many say they are. They measure 2 3/8" X 2 3/8" square, framed in a sturdy frame (material unknown), some slides appear to be colored somehow. I can't see individual brush strokes, but the color seems to be applied to certain area of slides, reds and purples seem most common coloring. They appear to be Japanese, although I guess Chinese may also be an option. Could you provide me with a description or any information as to what is written on edges and what type of slide this should be called. Any assistance you could provide in identifying would be greatly appreciated, thanks. Jim

Hello David, it appears to be a single piece of glass, without destructive deconstruction of



slide not sure. It's a heavy piece, but the weight may be from the frame material of which I don't know is made of. If you remember or hear anything could you send me a message? I would appreciate it. Thanks for your response.

From David Evans

Dear James

An interesting slide. Undoubtedly it is a magic lantern slide, though an unusual size. It comes out at 60mm square. Is it a single glass, or does it have a second

cover glass to protect the image? I am guessing it is Japanese, but only a guess I am afraid. We can include this in our next E-Publication, as we do have members who can read that language, and they would probably know if it is another language. The Japanese culture had magic lanterns but used them in a somewhat different way than Western lanternists did. They hand-held their lanterns, which were made smaller and lighter than ours, so it may be that your slide would fit one of them.

We hope to find out in due course.

Thank you for an interesting question.

David Evans



What Kind of Projector Was Used to Show These Slides?

 HISTORIC CAMERA Home Librarium Flickr Facebook

 C.P. Stimp's Concealed Vest Camera



http://historiccamera.com/cgi-bin/librarium2/pm.cgi?action=app_display&app=datasheet&app_id=284

Concealed vest pocket camera was introduced in October 1886 and continued to about 1892. Size no. 2, weighing 1 3/4 lb., was a larger version being 7 inch diameter camera which took 2 1/2 inch diameter photos which can be used for magic lantern images and sold for \$15 in 1889.

If you would like to add additional information click here

LARRY



A Group of Ten Slip Slides

This slide the eyes move

**Click image to
see slide action**

- ✓ All slides are 7 inches long, 4 inches high and 3/8 inches wide
- ✓ 9 are hand-painted
- ✓ 1 is a chromolith printed decal image

If you're interested or have questions about any of these slides I can send more information and more pictures. Contact information is below.

**Contact
Larry Cederblom
designerlc@comcast.net**

Click image to see slide action

Click image to see slide action

**For Sale \$150 plus Priority Mail 3-Day shipping within US \$15.50
if outside US request shipping cost to your location**

Magic Lantern

From George A. Ingles, Jr.
ginglespgc@comcast.net

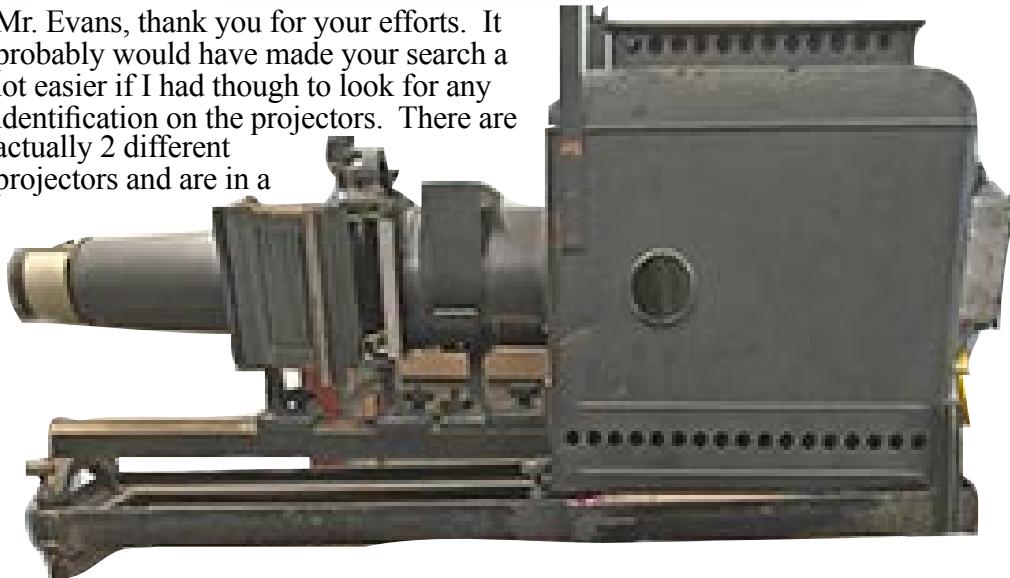
In a storage area of our Masonic Lodge we have what I believe is a newer version of two "Magic Lanterns." I will assume they were set up at one time for both of them to show the glass slides of what today is a PC and projector. From one of the members he tells me they try to get a bulb but couldn't find one but remembers little else about them. From the pictures can you tell me the name and model of them. I fear setting in a basement storage area they will be damaged and tossed in the future.

Thank you for your assistance, and your web site was very interesting.

York Rite Masonic Clip Art - York Rite Emblem - Free Transparent PNG Clipart Images Download
Fraternally,

George A. Ingles, Jr. Secretary / Recorder
Grant County York Rite
3601 N. Vienna Woods Dr.
Muncie, IN 47304-2071
E: ginglespgc@comcast.net

Mr. Evans, thank you for your efforts. It probably would have made your search a lot easier if I had though to look for any identification on the projectors. There are actually 2 different projectors and are in a



Masonic Lodge in Gas City, Indiana. I did see one in use in Butler, Pennsylvania, they had / have two projectors and while one is being presented the second is being readied for the next slide. There is a similar one in our Indiana Grand Lodge Library. There is also a much larger one in the Scottish Rite museum as it was used in the auditorium. We in the lodge are still projecting pictures on the wall but using "Power Point" and brighter projectors for better viewing.

As in any building over the years storage and space become an issue and continued moving

will get it broken. We would like for it to be out of the storage area and in a museum or where it can be appreciated or used in some way.

With the research you have

provide I can put it on ebay but....

Should you ever decide to come to Indianapolis for your conventions keep my information and the very least is to visit the Scottish Rite Museum with large projector using a filament for lighting.

Again thank you for your efforts and the very least I hope for is, that you enjoyed searching for the answers.

continued next page

A Big Thank You to the following:

contributing to this months issue.

David Donaldson
David Evans
James Fox
Roy Grao
George A. Ingles, Jr.
Jonathan Kaufman
Jessica Levy
J H Rabun
Tom Rall
Brian Rogers
Carrie Thoburn
Gart Westerhout

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

[E-mail Larry](#)

Welcome Returning Member

Jere Guldin

11008 Exposition Blvd
Los Angeles
CA 90064
USA

Ph: (661) 583-5925

E: jereguldin@gmail.com

Film Preservation Specialist

Magic Lantern continued



From David Evans

Dear George

The image on the previous page is a Bausch & Lomb Model C Balopticon with a water cell (the open tank shown at an angle in your image - should be vertical and full of water. This is to reduce the heat of the lamp at the slide, minimizing damage to the image.

The other image, above, is of the same type of lantern with its bellows extended (or is it another picture of the same lantern?) They date from about 1915 and are illustrated in my B & L catalogue of that date. If you wanted to use them these days, you could fit them up with quartz

halogen lamps or possibly LEDs, though, judging by the length of the objective lenses they were intended for long focus use, perhaps placed at the back of one of your large rooms so that the picture would be a reasonable size at the front of the room.

I have looked through quite a few catalogues before hitting on the right one!

I hope this helps.

David Evans